

## THE PSYCHOLOGICAL MOMENT

1 Samuel 11:12—March 14.

King Saul, Although Anointed of God, Waited For the Voice of the People. His Opportune Moment and How He Utilized It—His Acceptance by the People—Opportunities Open For All. Special Lessons to the Church, Also Called to Kingly Office.

"He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city."—Proverbs 16:32.

ISRAEL had asked for a king. God, through the Prophet Samuel, had caused the anointing of Saul to be king. The people of Israel had assembled, and God's choice, Samuel had indicated God's choice. Some had gladly accepted it, but the rougher element had refused, sneeringly saying, Who is he, that we should hope for anything great in his hand? It looked as though the Lord's choice had been unsatisfactory and had come to naught. Saul made no attempt to exercise authority, having such half-hearted support from the people. He returned home, resuming his life as a farmer; but we may be sure he was patiently waiting for the opportunity, or psychological moment when with God's blessing he would enter upon his duties and responsibilities as king.

Saul's farm life, however, could not continue only a month until the opportunity offered. The Ammonites, residing in the east of Israel's possessions, had for some time besieged Jabesh-gilead. When the city asked terms for surrender, the Ammonite general's demand was that on one condition he would save their lives—they should each submit to having an eye put out, as a shame on Israel. Time was asked—seven days—for decision. Messengers were dispatched, possibly to all the tribes. Some came to Saul's residence, evidently hoping that he would take steps for their deliverance.

Saul was appointed leader; the psychological moment had come. He killed the oxen he had been driving and sent pieces to all the tribes, saying that whoever did not respond, to become a defender of the general interests, would have his oxen hewed to pieces. This was a peculiar command for a king; but it touched the right spot, for three hundred and thirty thousand men responded. The messengers returned to Jabesh-gilead with assurances of aid for the next day; and Israel gave answer to the besiegers that by the time appointed they would march out for them to do as they wished.

Saul divided his army into three sections, and from three different quarters came suddenly upon the besiegers, routing them and delivering the Israelites. Thereupon they realized that God had indeed given them a wise king, whom they had been slow to recognize; and they inquired for those who had spoken against Saul, saying, Let them now be slain. However, the king wisely and generously said, "There shall not a man be put to death; for today the Lord hath wrought salvation in Israel."

**The Divine Character Vindicated.** Although the slaughtering of those Ammonites had Divine approval, it did not signify that they went to the theological Hell, there to suffer eternal torments. On the contrary, they merely went to the tomb, to sleep until in God's arrangement Christ would die as the world's Redeemer, and at His Second Advent would begin His work of calling back from death all that are in their graves.

To grasp the situation we must remember that all men are under a death sentence; and it matters little whether they die from starvation, sickness, pestilence or the sword. The penalty reads, "Dying, thou shalt die"—not live, anyhow or anywhere. This fact has a distinct bearing on everything appertaining to the Lord's authorization of wars, permission of fatalities, etc. While God has enforced the penalty, "The wages of sin is death," thus manifesting His Justice, He in another way has been preparing for the manifestation of His Love. His first step was in the sending of His Son to die for Adam's sin, under which the race is condemned to death. Soon He will establish a Kingdom which will blind Satan, release humanity from the results of the curse, and restore all the willing and obedient to full perfection.

**Special Lessons For the Church.** God's consecrated people may especially learn lessons from Saul's experience. They, like Saul, have been

nominated of God, not only to be kings, but also to be priests—"a Royal Priesthood." As Saul was anointed with oil, so the Royal Priesthood are anointed with the Holy Spirit. As the people rejected Saul and he waited patiently for the Lord's time, so mankind are not yet ready for the Reign of the Royal Priesthood, of which Jesus is the Head; and God's time has not yet come for the establishment of the Kingdom. Lessons of patience, humility and confidence in God are requisite that, after enduring, they might inherit the promises.

## SUEZ MOST VITAL TO GREAT BRITAIN

Protectorate Over Egypt Formed to Safeguard Canal.

### FEAR OF OTTOMAN ATTACK.

Proper Defensive Measures Could Not Be Made While Turkey Held Theoretical Rulership Over Pharaoh's Land—New Governor Has the Title of Sultan.

London.—"Long live Sultan Hussein." Such is the cry which is resounding throughout Egypt, over which England has now declared a protectorate, giving her a freer hand in safeguarding the Suez canal, upon which the existence of her vast empire so greatly depends.

The naming of Hussein as sultan ends the 400-year-old connection between Turkey and Egypt. The new ruler is an uncle of the deposed khedive, Abbas Hilmi, who has made common cause with the enemies of the British empire.

The Suez canal has been described as the most vulnerable point in the British empire. It is England's chief line of communication with Australia, with India and with other British dependencies in the east, not counting its value in the relations with Japan. Slightly less than 100 miles in length, the Suez canal is even more important to Great Britain than is the Panama canal to the United States.

In any plan of war between Turkey and Great Britain the Suez canal



Photo of canal by Illustrations bureau. BOATS IN SUEZ CANAL AND DEPOSED KHEDEVE OF EGYPT.

would naturally be the first object of attack by the Ottoman army. For a long time the porte has been preparing for such a move.

Many years ago an agitation was begun to have the canal adequately prepared against an invasion. It was proposed to put the province of El Arish, comprising the desert of Tih and the peninsula of Sinai, in a state of defense in order to prevent injury to the canal by an enemy.

The difficulty in the way of a realization of this plan has been the fact that Egypt has been until now a theoretical dependency of the Ottoman empire, the khedive ranking at Stamboul as hereditary governor—inferior in grade to the grand vizier and the grand eunuch of the seraglio. The khedive has always been a Turkophile, preferring the porte to England, which he has always hated.

In addition to this there has been a very considerable pro-Turkish element in Egypt which, with the ruler, would have raised very serious objections to the use of the revenues of the nation to fortify the canal against the Turks, who, in all probability, would have construed such an action as a hostile step.

The porte has always insisted that the desert of Tih really belongs to Turkey and was not included in the khedivate. In 1906, on the occasion of a Redoubt uprising in the province of Sinai and the Tih desert, a British official of the Egyptian government, was appointed commander and inspector of the peninsula. Thereupon the anti-British element in Turkey spread the report that England was going to fortify the gulf of Akabah to menace the Medina-Damascus railway, then in course of construction. The sultan marched troops from Akabah to Tabah, on the gulf of Akabah, at once.

Great Britain called upon him to evacuate Tabah on the ground that it was Egyptian territory and finally forced him to consent to the fixing of the boundary line so that it should run from El Rafah, on the Mediterranean to a point on the gulf of Akabah, at least three miles east of the town of Akabah. Since then the position of Great Britain has been even more delicate, and it has been obviously impossible to propose again to fortify Egyptian territory against an invasion which could come only from Turkey, the suzerain of Egypt.

### LIFE IS A SERVICE.

There is one wish ruling over all mankind, and that is a wish which is never in any single instance granted—each man wishes to be his own master. It is a boy's beatific vision, and it remains the grownup man's ruling passion to the last. But the fact is life is a service. The only question is, Whom will we serve?—F. W. Faber.

### Saved by His Wit.

The French author Martainville was a royalist and did not hesitate to attack the French revolution and its authorities. Presently, of course, he was summoned to appear before the revolutionary tribunal, with the terrible Fouquier at its head. The revolutionary tribunals at that time did not hesitate to send anybody to the guillotine who had ventured to attack them. Martainville expected to go with the rest of the victims. "What is your name?" asked the revolutionary judge "Martainville," said the young author "Martainville," exclaimed the judge "You are deceiving us and trying to hide your rank. You are an aristocrat, and your name is Le Martainville." "Citizen president," exclaimed the young man, "I am here to be shortened, not to be lengthened. Leave me my name!" A true Frenchman loves a witticism above all things, and the tribunal was so much pleased by Martainville's grim response that it spared his life.

### He Forgot.

A young Parisian, noted for his grace and readiness as a second in many duels, had been asked by a friend to accompany him to the mayor's office and affix his signature as a witness to the matrimonial ceremony. He consented, but when the scene was reached awkwardly forgot himself.

Just as the mayor was ready for the last formalities he broke out, to the astonishment of all parties, with the remark:

"Gentlemen, cannot this unhappy affair be arranged? Is there no way of preventing this sad occurrence?"

### The Cambodians.

The Cambodians are a docile people much averse to war. Their language and civilization, unlike those of the remaining peoples of Indo-China, are derived from India, as is also their religion. Their country contains various interesting ruins, the work of the Khmers, a race that has quite disappeared. The ruins at Angkor are remarkably well preserved and are possessed of great beauty.

### Time's Changes.

Time makes many changes. When you were eighteen if somebody had told you that at forty you'd be taking dancing lessons you'd have laughed in his face.—Detroit Free Press.

### LOVE'S PHILOSOPHY.

The fountains mingle with the river,  
And the rivers with the ocean,  
The winds of heaven mix for ever  
With a sweet emotion;  
Nothing in the world is single;  
All things by a law divine  
In one another's being mingle—  
Why not I with thine?

See the mountains kiss high heaven,  
And the waves clasp one another;  
No sister flower would be forgiven  
If it disdained its brother;  
And the sunlight clasps the earth,  
And the moonbeams kiss the sea;  
What are all these kisses worth  
If thou kiss not me?

—Shelley.

### Pointers For Youth.

Don't get your ideas of married life altogether from the comic weeklies, young man.

Mothers-in-law are often affable. Sometimes they leave you money.

A bride frequently knows how to make biscuit.

And if she doesn't, it is not absolutely impossible to secure a cook. Don't believe all you read in the funny magazines.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

### Baffled Science.

Science solves formidable problems and is powerless before apparently simple ones. She discovers steam power and electricity and bends the forces of nature to our needs. Nevertheless she cannot yet tell why the acorn becomes an oak, why a stone falls to the ground. She is full of "whys" that remain unanswered.

### His Counterthrust.

The Other Side's Counsel (fiercely)—I suppose you were brought up to tell the truth?

The Goaded Witness—No, I wasn't.

The Lawyer—Not brought up to tell the truth? What do you mean by that?

The Witness—My folks intended me for a lawyer.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

### A Peculiar Poison.

The Mexican Indians derived from their ancestors, the Aztecs, the method of making the poison of talavento. It is a subtle drug, the constituents of which are not known. The peculiar effect of the poison is to destroy the mind, while only slightly affecting the body.

### The Great Ladder.

The world is a ladder for some to go up and others to come down.—French Proverb.

### Life Doesn't Wait For You.

It is one of the provoking, but interesting things about life that it will never stop a moment for admiration. No sooner do you pause to enjoy it, or philosophize over it, or poetize about it, than it is up and away, and the next time you glance around it is vanishing over the hill—with the wind in its garments and the sun in its hair. If you do not go on with life it will go on without you.—American Magazine.

### WOMANKIND.

The little work tables of women's fingers are the playgrounds of women's fancies, and their knitting needles are fairy wands by which they transform the whole room into a spirit land of dreams; hence it is that a letter or book distracts a woman in love more than four pair of stockings knit by herself.—Richter.

One woman is fair, yet I am well. Another is wise, yet I am well. Another virtuous, yet I am well. But till all graces be in one woman, one woman shall not come in my grace.—Shakespeare.

Very learned women are to be found in the same manner as female warriors, but they are seldom or ever inventors.—Voltaire.

### For Sale

95 head cows and 2 bulls. Extra good quality, all natives. 75 head are coming three and four years old. May be seen at my ranch 7 1/2 miles southwest of Texline.—H. H. Hamilton. 14-3L.



At no other seasons of the year is scientific tailoring put to so strong a test as with Spring and Summer clothes. If your cold weather clothes are not warm enough, you put on a heavy overcoat.

But when the warmer days are here, and the overcoat is discarded, you look for light-weight clothes—and the lighter they are, the greater your comfort.

But—and here is where the test comes: partly lined or totally unlined clothes are the greatest test upon tailoring skill.

To hold their shape, such clothes must be of pure wool, hand-tailored in the vital parts, and skilfully put together with brains as well as thread and needle.

And last, but not least, the cloth must be shrunken "to the limit." You get these features in

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